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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

SUBJECT Underground Air-Raid Shelter in
Ostrava-Muglinov

DATE DISTR. 11 October 1956

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DATE OF
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

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report on a large underground
air-raid shelter in Ostrava-Muglinov which was supposed to shelter 2,000
persons. Construction began in spring 1954. The report includes a map
sketch showing the location of the shelter and a descriptive sketch
showing its appearance.

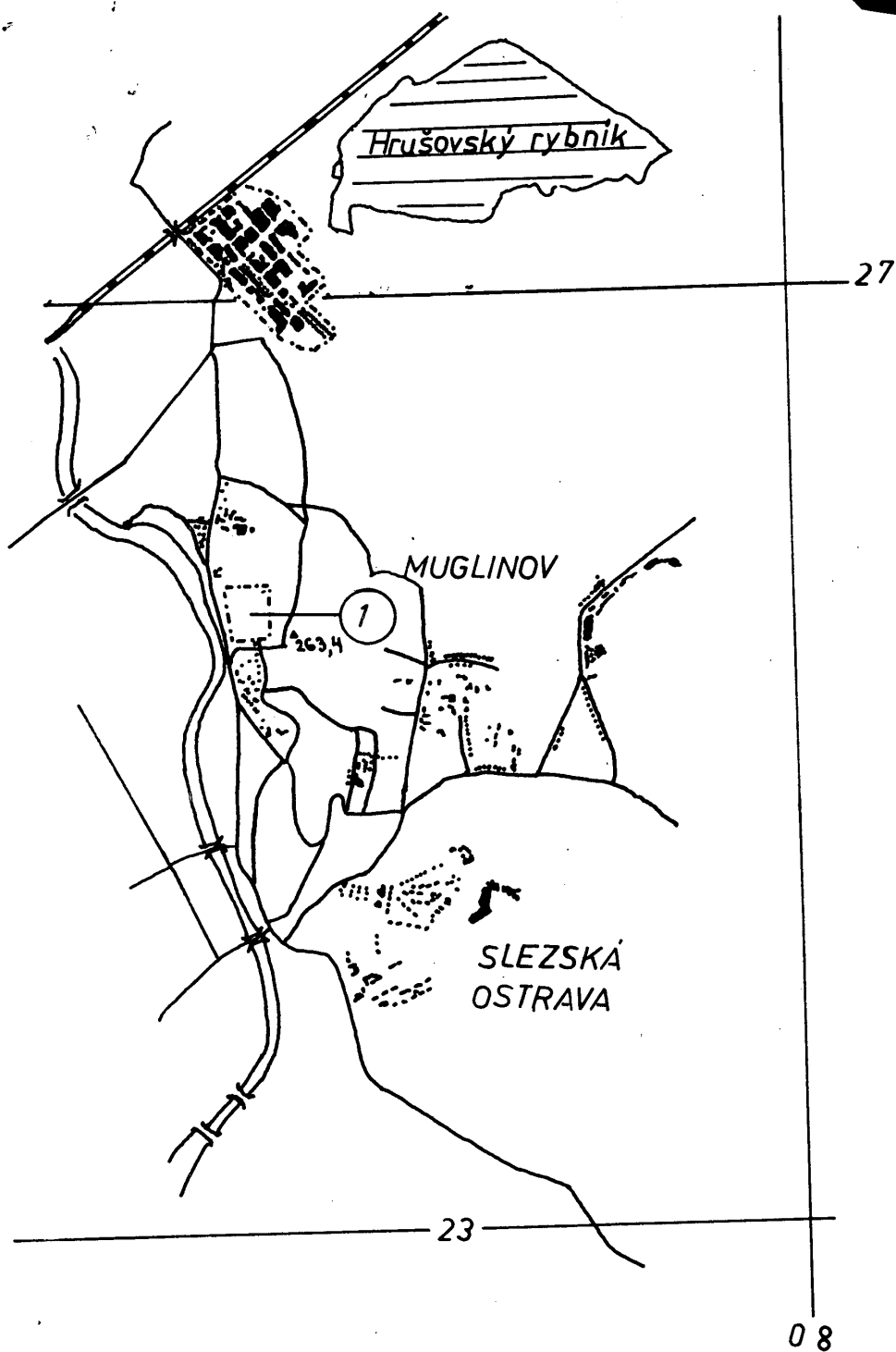
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1. In spring 1954, construction of a ferro-concrete underground installation was begun in Ostrava-Muglinov, in the suburb of Mexiko. It was officially stated to be an air raid shelter for 2,000 persons.
2. The construction was carried out by the "Dulni stavby" (mining constructions) firm in Pilsen. The whole area was fenced with barbed wire and the construction proceeded rapidly. By May 1955, the exterior construction had been completed and the interior fittings and finishing of the shelter were to be completed by February 1956.
3. Location: (see (1) on map).
 - a. The shelter is, as stated, situated in the suburb of Mexiko, south of brickworks, on the east bank of the Ostravice, and on the east side of the road from Mexiko to Hrusov, about 10 meters away from it.
 - b. The shelter itself runs eastwards in the direction of Muglinov and is in approx. level with trig point 263.4 m.
4. Materials: As stated above the construction was carried out by "Dulni stavby" Pilsen; pipelines, concrete slabs and concrete materials were supplied by "Betonstav" Privoz. Iron and steel were supplied by the Vitkovice Ironworks. There were 11 Tatra 111 trucks used for transportation.
5. Construction procedure:
 - a. A wire fence was installed for about 100 meters along the road and access to the building site was forbidden. Eight temporary wooden huts were put up by the road.
 - b. Concrete mixing and handling were not seen from the road, as it was done inside the shelter.
 - c. The construction of the front west wall was finished by May 1955 (?) but earth etc. was still being removed from the site at this time.
6. Description of shelter (see sketch):
 - a. The front west wall of the shelter extending along the road to Hrusov is about 45 meters long, made of concrete; the southern part is about 4 meters above ground level. There are doors about $2\frac{1}{2}$ meters high and 2 meters wide in this part which appear to be the main entrance. On both sides there are round projections 2 meters in diameter with two openings in them, probably ventilators, which look like loopholes. The southern part is about 12 meters long.
 - b. Northern part is about 30 meters long, and about 2 meters above the ground. In the middle there is a projection about $2\frac{1}{2}$ meters high with two ventilators and in it beyond this another projection shaped like a tower about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m in dia. and 3.25 m high, and there is a ventilator in it of about 1 meter long, narrowing towards the inner end.
 - c. The extent of the shelter towards the east is not known, as it is built on a slope rising to about 15 m, which is really an old slag heap overgrown with birches and acacias. No projections or ventilators are to be seen in this slope.
 - d. Its impossible to ascertain the thickness of concrete walls from the road



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